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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Assignee's Docket No.: 7204)
Group Art Unit: 2764)
Serial No.: 09/020,699)
Examiner: Chinor M. Lee)
Filing Date: February 9, 1998)
Title: Method and Apparatus for)
Determining the Validity)
of a Data Processing)
Transaction)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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GREGORY A. WELTE

AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20232

Sir:

Please amend the following claim to read as indicated:

1. (Amended twice) A method of determining validity of a transaction carried out by a user at a data processing system, the method including the steps of:

- a) receiving a user identification card and a first entry of data from the user;
- b) checking the first entry of data against a first stored field of security data;
- c) issuing a message to the user which requests a subset entry, consisting of less than all characters of a second stored field of security data, and receiving [a second]

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- the subset entry [of data] from the user;
- d) checking the [second] subset entry [of data] against